

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 5, line 3 and ending on page 5, line 7 of the specification with the following paragraph:

The disclosures of the above referred to patents are incorporated herein by reference. Various embodiments of the present invention may utilize different fire and smoke detecting means. In the simplest embodiment a conventional smoke detector will simultaneously produce an audible alarm and send a signal to the transmitter or transceiver¹⁴.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 5, line 9 and ending on page 5, line 19 of the specification with the following paragraph:

In some cases, the fire detection system includes apparatus for discrimination between various types of fires as described in United States Patent 5,726, 633 (referred to above). That apparatus relies on the characteristics of the smoke to determine the type of fire producing smoke. As noted therein flaming fires exhibit quite different smoke characteristics than smoldering fires. As also noted therein the different types of smoke sensors respond differently depending on the fire type. Thus, photoelectric detectors are known to respond more rapidly to smoldering fires than are ionization-type detectors. Similarly, ionization-type detectors are known to respond more rapidly to flaming type fires than do photo-electric detectors. The same patent describes fuzzy logic and Boolean logic techniques for analysis of such data. As described in United States patent 6,084,522 (referred to above) temperature sensing in combination with a smoke detector is also useful. For example various embodiments may include a photoelectric sensor 12 for determining the presence of smoke and a plurality of thermistors 16 for providing a temperature signal reflective of a temperature level.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 6, line 12 and ending on page 6, line 16 of the specification with the following paragraph:

The receiver 18 is coupled to a fire ladder 20 disposed below a conventional window 22. The receiver 18 ~~one~~ upon receiving a signal from the transmitter or transceiver 14 releases the fire ladder 20. The fire ladder 20 may be constructed in the general manner shown in the various United States patents listed in the Background of the Invention section of this application.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 6, line 18 and ending on page 6, line 28 of the specification with the following paragraph:

The fire ladder ~~40~~ 20 will preferably include a manual release to permit deployment by the user in the event of any failure of the portion of the system that includes a fire and/or smoke detector. In addition the respective steps are preferably shaped so that individual steps include projections that extend toward the side of the building (on which the apparatus is mounted) a sufficient amount to stabilize (by physical contact) the ladder with respect to the side of the building. A ladder construction having nesting rigid generally U-shaped rungs as shown in United States patent 4,434,871 lends itself to projections that extend horizontally from each rung. It will be understood that the ladder may be collapsed after use and stowed ready for deployment again at some future time.